

**From:** Aaronson, AM (Alan)  
**To:** 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'  
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**Subject:** Letter re Microsoft Settlement

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January 26, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am in the chemical industry and use Microsoft's Windows on a daily basis. From my experience and in my opinion, Microsoft's Windows has become the standard operating system for business and personal computing.

The most reasonable choice for the Justice Department is to conclude the antitrust lawsuit with Microsoft and allow them to return to business with the terms of the settlement having been enacted. The government has aggressively sought to break-up Microsoft over the past three years. This offensive from the Justice Department has diverted attention from other ways of dealing with Microsoft's excessive tactics -- including strong-arming competitors -- that I have read about in the media.

I am pleased a settlement has finally been reached. As I understand them, the terms of the settlement require Microsoft to deal more fairly with competitors and not to retaliate in any way against vendors who want to use competitors' software instead of Microsoft's. I feel that the terms Microsoft has agreed to serves their best interests at this time, and gives the competition reasonable means by which to win consumer loyalty.

The best action the Department of Justice can take is to end this onslaught against Microsoft for being very good at what they do. I think the best is yet to come from Microsoft, and this country's economic rise. I seriously urge the Department of Justice to accept the terms of the November settlement with Microsoft.

This opinions expressed in this letter are my own and are not meant to represent those of my employer.

Sincerely,

Alan Aaronson